

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61M1/28 F04B43/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61M F04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 101 24 951 C (PLASMASELECT AG) 5 December 2002 (2002-12-05) paragraphs '0019!', '0031!; figures	37
A		1
A	EP 1 195 171 A (TERUMO CORP) 10 April 2002 (2002-04-10) cited in the application paragraph '0064! - paragraph '0066!; figures 3,8AB column 6, line 8 - line 14	1,37
A	DE 198 14 695 A (FRESENIUS MEDICAL CARE DE GMBH) 14 October 1999 (1999-10-14) abstract; figure 1	1,37

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

16/11/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CH2004/000481

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 40-49
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(1v) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 38
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 40-49

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 38

Present claim 38 contains no technical features and therefore relates to an extremely large number of possible apparatus. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the apparatus claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search is impossible.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date	
DE 10124951	C	05-12-2002	DE	10124951	C1		05-12-2002	
			WO	02094349	A1		28-11-2002	
			EP	1389140	A1		18-02-2004	
EP 1195171	A	10-04-2002	JP	2002113095	A		16-04-2002	
			JP	2003000704	A		07-01-2003	
			JP	2003000705	A		07-01-2003	
			EP	1195171	A2		10-04-2002	
			EP	1258260	A2		20-11-2002	
			US	2002045851	A1		18-04-2002	
DE 19814695	A	14-10-1999	DE	19814695	A1		14-10-1999	
			DE	59909670	D1		15-07-2004	
			EP	0956876	A1		17-11-1999	
			JP	11347115	A		21-12-1999	
			US	6743201	B1		01-06-2004	